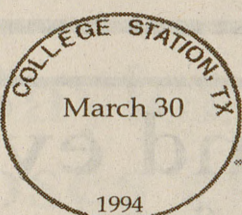




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CRAWFISH BOIL**
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MAIL CALL

B-CS, A&M not responsible for death of newborn

I would like to respond to Tracey Grahame's letter. I was shocked and saddened by the death of that newborn little girl, as I know most people were. Being an unwed mother in any century and at any age is a frightening and devastating experience if it is not by personal choice.

But I cannot agree that the blame lies with the community or the college. This is not the dark ages — not all of the "legal options" may be available in this area, but a woman in a crisis pregnancy does have options. There is a Family Planning Center to assist in preventing pregnancy, and it is my understanding that they even offer lower cost on birth control to students and low income women. If a pregnancy does occur, there is a Crisis Pregnancy Center and an adoption agency right here in town.

I will not presume to dictate the choice another woman makes in the case of an unwanted pregnancy. But part of being an adult is to take responsibility for your actions. If you are going to have sex, use birth control. If you become pregnant, do something about it when you first find out. There don't have to be tragedies like the one at Mosher Hall ... regardless of the availability of RU-486 and abortion in this community.

Stephanie Hilliard
Part-time student

I am writing in response to Tracey Grahame's letter blaming Bryan-College Station and Texas A&M for the trash bin baby incident. How dare she throw the blame on a city and institution for what a mature adult did! If that woman is responsible enough to have sex, then she is responsible enough to deal with the consequences. It is childish to point fingers at an educational institution for this terrible incident. This woman is a college-educated individual! She apparently thought she was mature enough to have sex, therefore she is mature enough to seek help when needed. It is not A&M's job to babysit every sexually active student. Do you realize what a job like that would entail?

Bryan-College Station as well as Texas A&M have plenty of crisis centers and counseling services available to the public — have you looked in the phone book lately? I

do not know the details of her situation, but if she chose not to seek counseling for birth control and later an abortion then she obviously chose to carry through her pregnancy. Whatever happened, it is a terrible tragedy.

Apparently, Grahame sleeps better at night by tossing blame at others who did not have the opportunity to be involved by the choice of the "mother."

Cindi Inman
Graduate student

Tracy Grahame placed the blame for the "Trash Bin Baby," as she put it, at the feet of Texas A&M and B-CS.

She cited refusal to offer what she calls "reproductive options," such as abortion and the French RU-486 pill, as a direct cause of the child's death.

I may be stepping out on a limb here, but what is the difference between getting scrambled in a mother's womb, getting obliterated by chemicals, and getting abandoned at birth. Dead is dead! There is still a baby girl who will never grow up. She will never take those first steps or go on that first date. She will never experience all of life's pleasures and pains that we all take for granted.

The whole point is moot as to how the little girl would have ended up if other means of killing her were available. The clinical options may let you sleep better at night because you don't have to deal with all the blood and the gore, but a sanitary death is still a final one.

Finally Grahame should not automatically assume that the mother wanted to kill her daughter. So far as I've heard, it's still under investigation.

Christopher Dahlquist
Class of '95

Tracey Grahame needs as much psychological help as that girl does. With one statement and one question she was able to pinpoint the problem and dispense the blame. Maybe she should be our next president since she is so efficient in finding answers to the world's problems. She mentions abortion, RU-486, B-CS and Texas A&M in one breath. Maybe when all the facts are in, we'll know more, but for now you can't tie everything together. The girl is 21 years old and a Texas A&M student. She is old enough to know that she has options. She also has access to free counseling here at A&M. I may be wrong, but I doubt if she was confined to B-CS or Texas A&M. Throwing the baby,

a human life, away was at the bottom of a long list of options.

As for sleeping at night, except for some allergies associated with oak pollen, I'm sleeping fine.

Glen Portie
Class of '94

In response to Tracey Grahame's letter, let us bring you up to date on something. First of all, RU-486 and abortion are not "reproductive options," they are methods of killing. How can you blame a city and a school for a woman's actions? The irrational choice that the A&M woman made is no one's fault but her own. A woman has plenty of time to decide what to do with her unborn child. There are many churches and organizations who would be elated to give help and support to any woman unsure about her pregnancy.

Secondly, you ask us how we sleep at night. Let us ask you how you sleep at night knowing that you support the "reproductive option" that destroys life?

We understand that everyone is entitled to their own opinion, but putting the blame on a city and school is nothing but an easy way out!

Jenny Hewell
Class of '96

Ann Miller
Class of '96

I agree with Tracey Grahame's comments in her letter. Contraceptives should be more widely available in this country. However, I do not understand how the woman's actions could be blamed on Texas A&M or B-CS.

I don't care how many psychologists they talk to, there is simply no justification for what was done. There is no reason why someone can't practice safe sex with the numerous types of contraceptives currently available. I hope that this incident serves as a grim reminder as to what can happen when people are not careful.

Sayed Ahmed
Class of '95

This is in response to Tracy Grahame's letter. How can you say A&M is a responsible? It is a common occurrence for babies to be found in trash bins in Houston; is that city to blame also? Houston, being a very large metropolis, provides access to "all reproductive options legal in the United States."

The last time I checked, A&M was an institute of higher learning, not an abortion clinic or a pregnancy crisis center. I am sure that with 40,000 students, more than one has found herself with an unwanted pregnancy and has dealt with it in an appropriate manner. A&M has many student counseling services. I bet one deals with pregnancy. Also, Beutel provides birth control options. Yes, this was a horrible tragedy and a shock to B-CS. But to

point the blame at A&M and B-CS is ludicrous.

I take exception to Tracey Grahame's letter which blamed B-CS area and Texas A&M in general and everybody in particular, for "Trash Bin Baby."

You complained that it is who you are responsible for this because the local community does not offer "all reproductive options," such as RU-486 and abortion. I am assuming that abortion is also not a viable alternative tossing your newborn child down garbage chute.

Had the student wished, she could have contacted any number of sources to aid in her (I'm assuming) unwanted pregnancy. The area offers a Planned Parenthood office (846-1744), a Crisis Placement Center (776-1234) and The Brazos Valley Crisis Pregnancy Service (846-1097). The Student Health Center, the A&M Mentors program, and a student counseling service can assist young adults who are dealing with similar experiences. Unfortunately, it doesn't appear she used any of these resources. She denied the fact of her pregnancy to her friends and even EMS technicians who arrived at the scene. She had plenty of options but didn't use them.

I'm sorry — she is responsible. It is determined that her child was born alive, and she should be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

Frankly, I'm enraged that Grahame has the audacity to place blame on a community which provides so many resources to combat situations such as this one. The very fact that she neglected to mention adoption as a real alternative certainly reflects her attitudes towards unexpected pregnancies. Short, her indictment was not ill-conceived, it was blatantly ignorant and wrong.

Although I believe in freedom of speech, I certainly wish that a row-minded person such as Grahame would either shut up or at least a clue. I would either see her expression of stupidity, but really next time, she should think before she writes or just be quiet.

Accompanied by 12 signs

Students defend state reputation

I'm sorry Humberto Jorgé feels that all Texans are racists and that we live in a world that existed 100 years ago. This is too bad for him, as well as for the people he will talk to when he goes home to Europe. During my two-year stay in Europe, I was a witness of racial prejudices, but at the same time, I was also a witness to the fact that we also had many nice experiences which I emphasize more when talking about Europe to my friends.

I know a lot about Europe, and the European people are as far away from perfection as any nation. I think Jorgé should take a look at his own nation's problems and shortcomings before he criticizes others.

In response to Mr. Humberto Jorgé's letter, I just wish to remind him that neither this state nor this country is as uncivilized as he says it is. He writes about the wonderful health care and education systems in Europe, but he fails to mention the amount of money the average European citizen pays. He also fails to mention the soaring unemployment rates in Europe. Racism is still a problem here in Texas, I recognize that. Does Mr. Jorgé recognize the racism problem facing Europe's hope so.


Mr. Jorgé, please don't be quick to attribute the actions of a few lost souls working at a college to an entire state of country.

Juan Carlos

This is in response to Humberto Jorgé's letter, "Student views Texas as racist, uncivilized." Mr. Jorgé, you are obviously not happy here in Texas and do not appreciate our beautiful state.

I find it very disturbing that you judge the whole state of Texas on one experience in one bar. I assure most Texans feel as I do and do not appreciate you slander our state. Since you have no good words, or feelings towards Texas, maybe you would be happy where you came from.


Jeff




WILEY LECTURE SERIES
MEMORIAL STUDENT CENTER

April 8, 1994, 8:00 p.m.
Rudder Auditorium
Texas A&M University


GLOBAL POLICING



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Former U.S. Secretary of Defense



Dr. Jeane Kirkpatrick
Former U.S. Ambassador to the U.N.




Mr. William F. Buckley, Jr.
Moderator

Adults \$12, \$15, & \$18
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Some say the U.S. is no longer in a position to be the world's policeman. President Clinton has attempted to redefine U.S. involvement in the international community. Kirkpatrick and Aspin will examine both sides of this controversial issue.

Tickets available at the MSC Box Office, or call 845-1234.



The Association of Former Students Spring Senior Induction Banquet

Tuesday & Wednesday, April 5 & 6, 1994

COLLEGE STATION HILTON HOTEL
GRAND BALLROOM - 6:15 P. M.

All May & August '94 graduates are invited
Complimentary tickets may be picked up in the
MSC Hallway, March 29, 30, & 31 (9 a.m. - 4 p.m.)

TICKETS GIVEN ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS
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Compliments of The Association of Former Students

CINEMARK THEATRES

MOVIES 16 HOLLYWOOD
USA 7 &
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MOVIES BELOW ARE FIRST-RUN
\$3.00 MATINEES BEFORE 6PM
AFTER 6PM \$5.00 ADULTS
\$3.00 CHILDREN & SENIORS

THE PAPER (R)	11:25 2:00 4:35 7:25 10:05 (12:35)	THX
MAJOR LEAGUE II (PG)	11:40 1:55 4:20 7:05 9:45 (12:10)	THX
JIMMY HOLLYWOOD (R)	11:50 2:10 4:40 7:45 10:25 (12:25)	THX
8 SECONDS (PG-13)	11:50 2:10 5:00 7:40 10:15 (12:35)	THX
REALITY BITES (PG-13)	11:35 2:05 4:40 7:30 9:50 (12:00)	THX
IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER (R)	12:40 4:00 7:00 10:00	THX
ACE VENTURA: PET DETECTIVE (PG-13)	12:10 2:35 5:10 7:50 10:20 (12:15)	THX
MRS. DOUBTFIRE (PG-13)	11:00 1:40 4:20 7:05 9:50 (12:20)	THX
PHILADELPHIA (PG-13)	11:05 1:50 4:25 7:15 9:55 (12:30)	THX
ABOVE THE RIM (R)	12:00 2:25 4:55 7:35 10:00 (12:20)	THX
THE REF (R)	12:25 2:30 5:05 7:50 10:20 (12:25)	No Passes

MOVIES BELOW ARE DISCOUNT
\$1.50 MATINEES BEFORE 6PM
AFTER 6PM \$3.00 ADULTS
\$1.50 CHILDREN & SENIORS

\$ THE PELICAN BRIEF (PG-13)	12:30 4:05 7:10 10:10	THX
\$ IRON WILL (PG)	11:20 1:50 4:15 7:20 9:55	THX
\$ THE FUGITIVE (PG-13)	12:20 3:45 7:00 9:45 (12:30)	THX
\$ THE THREE MUSKETEERS (PG)	7:45 10:15	THX
\$ COOL RUNNINGS (PG)	11:55 2:20 4:45	THX
\$ I'LL DO ANYTHING (PG-13)	11:25 2:00 4:30 7:10 9:40	THX

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